The principal means of the spread of plague between rats themselves and between rats and men is by insects, particularly fleas. The observation that the geographic distribution of plague corresponds with the distribution of a certain species of rat, namely, the *nesokia* of the family *Mures* inhabiting only the Old World, with the exception of the island of Madagascar, must be modified, since the infection has recently become diffused in Madagascar and South America, where the species *nesokia* is unknown, the rat *sigmodontes* taking its place. Besides the common or domestic *nesokia*, there is another race of rats, the *nesokia bandicota*, or pig-rat, which is very susceptible to plague, but not to as great a degree as the former kind. It is very common in India, and, according to Cantlie, is the only species which presents a general distribution that corresponds to that of plague.

Though susceptible in the laboratory, observations are very sparse showing the infection of mice under natural conditions. Squirrels have been found dead with the disease in India, where this animal is common. Guinea pigs are not affected except artificially. At Mysore, India, a porcupine was bacteriologically shown to have died of bubonic plague.

One species of marmot, in eastern Mongolia, is subject to a considerable mortality almost every year from plague. There is evidence also that moles are reagents.

On three occasions, all in India, prevalences of disease among monkeys have been proved bacteriologically to be bubonic plague.

Though laboratory experiments are almost constantly negative regarding the susceptibility of dogs to plague, there is historical evidence that, during prevalences of so-called plague in England, Russia, and Asia, there was a concurrent epizootic among dogs. In 1897–98, at Poona, two dogs in military barracks were suspected but not proved to have died of plague. At Jeddo it is said there was, during the plague of 1897–98, a large mortality among dogs. On the other hand, at Bombay, in the autumn of 1890, when plague prevailed, the deaths among dogs were below the mean.

Augmentation of the number of deaths among cats has been recorded in recent epidemics of plague in Asia.

It is said that in China jackals preying on human plague cadavers die also of the disease. However, proof is lacking.

No cases are recorded of horses falling victims to plague, but in many epidemics an increased death rate has been observed among hogs, sheep, goats, and bovine animals.

The chronicles of epidemics of years gone by speak of the dying of birds in great numbers. At Yunnan the domestic fowl is reputed infectible, and recently at Bombay, during plague, many pigeons died. On the contrary, at Hongkong an augmentation of deaths among domestic fowls and pigeons has not been determined.

In the Himalaya Mountains it is believed that serpents devouring plague-infected rats die from the disease, but observations made by Plank in 1877 cast doubt on this story.

JAPAN.

Report from Nagasaki—Emigrants recommended for rejection.

Sanitary Inspector Bowie reports, July 21, as follows:

Number of emigrants for Manila recommended, July 21, for rejection, 83.